TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF S.B. 284: AN ACT INCREASING THE AGE FROM EIGHT TO EIGHTEEN YEARS FOR AN INCOME-ELIGIBLE PERSON TO OBTAIN MEDICAL ASSISTANCE REGARDLESS OF IMMIGRATION STATUS.

HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE OF CT GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Dear Members of the Human Services Committee of the CT General Assembly:

Good afternoon. My name is Jean Pierre Arbildo. I am a member of Uniting for a Safe Inclusive Community - Manchester. I'm in favor of S.B. 284: AN ACT INCREASING THE AGE FROM EIGHT TO EIGHTEEN YEARS FOR AN INCOME-ELIGIBLE PERSON TO OBTAIN MEDICAL ASSISTANCE REGARDLESS OF IMMIGRATION STATUS.

I'm a cancer survivor, and since I arrived in this country I wasn't able to do my regular medical check-ups, always with the fear of receiving high bills. Around 2 months ago I had to go to the hospital because I felt very, very sick. Now I have a bill of \$2000 just for half an hour of attention. I'm the only support in my house, and I work many hours a day to pay my rent, my electric bills, and food. I'm underpaid, and I have a family with 2 kids to raise. As of right now I don't know how I'm going to pay this bill. My family will suffer one more time due to economic uncertainty.

Please support S.B. 284: AN ACT INCREASING THE AGE FROM EIGHT TO EIGHTEEN YEARS FOR AN INCOME-ELIGIBLE PERSON TO OBTAIN MEDICAL ASSISTANCE REGARDLESS OF IMMIGRATION STATUS.

Thank you for your time,

Jean Pierre Arbildo Manchester, CT